

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)**Rejection Under Karaoguz, MacKenzie and Maruta**

Claims 1-6, 8-18 and 20-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent Application Number 2004/0059914 issued to Karaoguz dated March 25, 2004 in view of U. S. Patent Application Number 2002/0141594 A1 issued to MacKenzie dated October 3, 2002, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 4,870,526 issued to Maruta on September 26, 1989.

Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

Applicants' claim 1 recites,

"an authentication device that authenticates a computing device, in communication with the authentication device, through employment of a determination that a current location of the authentication device matches an initial location of the authentication device;

wherein one or more private keys employable for encryption and/or decryption of information are erased via a cutoff of power upon an attempt to move the authentication device."

As stated in the Office Action, Karaoguz and Mackenzie do not teach or suggest "wherein one or more private keys employable for encryption and/or decryption of information are erased upon an attempt to move the authentication device", as recited in applicants' claim 1. In addition, applicants assert that Maruta does not teach or suggest the limitation either.

Instead, Maruta discloses a technique for the automatic turn-off of power to an electronic device, e.g., a copying apparatus, a laser printer, or a facsimile. The technique turns off a power supply only upon the occurrence of a preset time. (See column 7, lines 27-43.)

By contrast, applicants' claim 1 does not require the occurrence of a preset time for a cutoff of power. Applicants' claim 1 requires the private keys employable for encryption and/or decryption of information to be erased via a cutoff of power upon an attempt to move the authentication device.

Also, the Examiner contends that Maruta teaches that information is erased via a cutoff of power.

Applicants disagree. This is because Maruta discloses in column 7, lines 27-48,

"FIG. 10 shows the automatic power-off subroutine. It is determined in the step S71 whether the cancel key 96 (shown in FIG. 2) is turned on or not. If the cancel key 96 is turned off, it is determined in the step S72 whether the present time corresponds to the set time zone for turn-off of power supply. If the present time corresponds to the set time zone for turn-off of power supply, a power-off signal is outputted in the step S78 after determinations in the steps S73 to S77. More specifically, the power-off signal is outputted in the step S78 if it is determined in the steps S73 to S76 that the copy forbidding flag is 0, i.e. the temperature of the fixing device 28 has been raised to the set value, that the operation flag is 0, i.e. the keys of the operation panel 70 are not operated, that the main motor M1 is turned off, i.e. copy operation is not being effected, and that the automatic reset timer does not count. If it is determined in the step S76 that the automatic reset timer counts although the conditions in the steps S73 to S75 are satisfied, the MPU waits for an end of counting of the automatic reset timer in the step S77 and then the power-off signal is outputted in the step S78."

In effect, Maruta does not disclose that information is erased via a cutoff of power.

Second, the Office Action suggests that there is a motivation to combine Karaoguz and Mackenzie with Maruta —namely, to enhance security of the system. However, applicants respectfully submit that the teachings in Karaoguz, Mackenzie and Maruta provide no basis to conclude that a person of ordinary skill in the art would use Mackenzie's and Maruta's techniques to facilitate Karaoguz's arrangement to arrive at the subject matter of applicants' claim 1, so the combination is improper.

Specifically, each reference addresses a problem so different from the one addressed by the other references that the respective teachings provide no motivation for the person of ordinary skill to combine them.

More specifically, Karaoguz addresses the problem of authenticating and confirming an identity of a user based on the distance range location information and/or the geographic position location information of the user's wireless device. In Karaoguz, the problem is addressed by receiving a request message from a sender to access a resource provided through a wireless network; determining first signal-generated location information of the sender; identifying the sender using the first signal-generated location information; confirming an identity of the sender; and authorizing access for the sender to access the resource.

By contrast, Mackenzie addresses the problem of providing techniques by which a networked cryptographic device can be immunized to offline dictionary attacks in case the device is captured. In Mackenzie, the problem is addressed by generating in a first party device a request for the partial assistance of a device associated with a second party in recovering a key from data stored on the first party device, wherein the second party device is remote from the first party device; transmitting the request from the first party device to the second party device; receiving results in the first party device generated by the second party device based on the partial assistance provided by the second party device; and using at least a portion of the received results in the first party device to recover the key for subsequent use as a private key in one or more associated public key cryptographic techniques.

Rather than addressing problems that involve a) providing authenticating and confirming an identity of a user based on the distance range location information and/or the geographic position location information of the user's wireless device as done by Karaoguz or b) providing techniques by which a networked cryptographic device can be immunized to offline dictionary attacks in case the device is captured as done by Mackenzie, it appears that the problem being addressed by Maruta is the need to provide an automatic power turn-off apparatus for an electronic apparatus, in which if a trouble occurs in the electronic apparatus, prompt measures can be taken for recovery from the trouble. Maruata automatic power turn-off apparatus comprises a power

supply means for supplying electric power to an image forming means and a display means while the image forming means is in operation and in a waiting state; a power supply turn-off means responsive to an output; and a signal provided from a clock means for turning off the electric power supply from the power supply means to the image forming means and to a display means.

Also, each reference addresses devices so different from the devices addressed by the other references that the respective teachings provide no motivation for the person of ordinary skill to combine them.

Karaoguz addresses wireless communication devices. MacKenzie addresses networked cryptographic devices. By contrast, Maruta addresses a copying apparatus, a laser printer, or a facsimile device.

Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine a solution that provides 1) receiving a request message from a sender to access a resource provided through a wireless network; determining first signal-generated location information of the sender; identifying the sender using the first signal-generated location information; confirming an identity of the sender; and authorizing access for the sender to access the resource, with 2) generating in a first party device a request for the partial assistance of a device associated with a second party in recovering a key from data stored on the first party device, wherein the second party device is remote from the first party device; transmitting the request from the first party device to the second party device; receiving results in the first party device generated by the second party device based on the partial assistance provided by the second party device; and using at least a portion of the received results in the first party device to recover the key for subsequent use as a private key in one or more associated public key cryptographic techniques, and 3) a power supply means for supplying electric power to an image forming means and a display means while the image forming means is in operation and in a waiting state; a power supply turn-off means responsive to an output; and a signal provided from a clock means for turning off the electric power supply from the power supply means to the image forming means and to a display means.

Furthermore, Karaoguz makes no mention of an automatic power turn-off device nor is there a teaching in Karaoguz to suggest that there would be an improvement in

Karaoguz's technique with an automatic power turn-off device. Since the teachings of Karaoguz adequately address the problem of authenticating and confirming an identity of a user based on the distance range location information and/or the geographic position location information of the user's wireless device, there is no motivation to combine Karaoguz and Mackenzie's with Maruta's teachings. Given that Karaoguz's technique does not suffer from the problems that Maruta addresses, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be led to try to improve Karaoguz's technique with Maruta's teachings.

Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify Karaoguz with Mackenzie's and Maruta's teachings. Consequently, applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner is relying on the use of impermissible hindsight in an attempt to reconstruct applicants' teachings by combining Karaoguz, Mackenzie and Maruta. Accordingly, applicants submit that the combination and resultant rejection are improper.

Therefore the proposed combination of Karaoguz, MacKenzie and Maruta does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicants' claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 2-13 and 23-25 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 14 and 22 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown is not taught by the proposed combination of Karaoguz, MacKenzie and Maruta. For example, claims 14 and 22 recite, "wherein one or more private keys employable for encryption and/or decryption of information are erased via a cutoff of power upon an attempt to move the authentication device". The proposed combination of Karaoguz, MacKenzie and Maruta does not teach or suggest this limitation for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 14 and 22 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 15-21 depend from claim 14, these dependent claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Rejection Under Karaoguz, MacKenzie, Maruta and Wheeler

Claims 7 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Karaoguz in view of MacKenzie, and further in view of Maruta, and furthermore in

view of U. S. Patent Application Number 2007/0088950 issued to Wheeler dated April 19, 2007.

Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

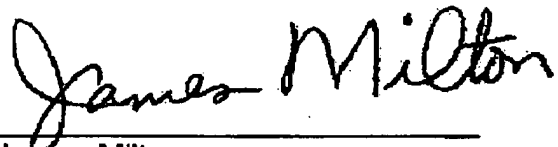
This rejection is based on the rejection under Karaoguz, MacKenzie and Maruta being proper. As that ground of rejection has been overcome, and none of the cited references teach or suggest "wherein one or more private keys employable for encryption and/or decryption of information are erased via a cutoff of power upon an attempt to move the authentication device" as recited in applicants' independent claims 1, 14 and 22, the proposed combination of Karaoguz, MacKenzie, Maruta and Wheeler does not supply this missing element. Thus, this combination does not make obvious any of applicants' claims, all of which require the aforesaid limitation.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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